

**ARGYLL AND BUTE – EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-26 AND
EDUCATION SERVICE PROGRESS AND IMPACT REPORT 2023-24**

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Section 13 of the statutory guidance of the Standards in

enables the Scottish Ministers to issue guidance to education authorities in relation to their functions under section 3 to 8 of the 2000 Act, and education authorities are required to have regard to this guidance in discharging these functions.

2.2 The guidance focuses in particular on education authority duties which are designed to enhance equity and support improvement within schools and across education authorities.

2.3 Sections 3F, 3H and 6 of the 2000 Act: impose duties on education authorities in relation to the annual planning and reporting; namely the publishing of an Annual Education Plan.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:

3.1 Note the progress made with respect to priority actions within the 2022-24 Education Strategic Plan (2023-24 update) outlined in the Education Service Progress and Impact Report 2023-24.

3.2 Approve the Education Service Progress and Impact Report 2023-24 and Strategic Plan 2024-26 (Appendix 1)

3.3 Approve the publishing of the Education Strategic Plan 2024-26 and Education Service Progress and Impact Report 2023-24 on the Council website.

3.4 Approve the submission of the Education Strategic Plan 2024-2026 and Education Service Progress and Impact Report 2023-2024 to Scottish Government.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 The Education Service must prepare and publish an annual plan setting out the steps we have taken, over the course of the planning period:

to reduce inequalities of outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socioeconomic disadvantage, including the use of Strategic Equity Funding (SEF) and Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) to comply with the duties imposed on it by section 3B(3) (to seek and have regard to the views of the persons listed in section 3B(4) and to provide any advice and support the authority thinks appropriate to those persons in relation to its consideration of decisions of a strategic nature about the carrying out of its functions relating to school education;

in pursuance of the National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education; and

to set out any educational benefits for pupils that the Authority

(Association of Directors of Education, Scotland) and Education Scotland.

4.5

- 6.4 HR - None
- 6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty:
 - 6.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics The Education Strategic Services to section 3B of the 2000 Act which imposes duties on education authorities which are designed to promote a reduction in inequalities of educational outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socioeconomic disadvantage.
 - 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty - None
 - 6.5.3 Islands - None
- 6.6 Climate Change - None
- 6.7 Risk There are potential reputational risks for the Council should they fail to deliver the legislative requirements set out within the statutory guidance of March 2017
- 6.8 Customer Service This report provides elected members with an overview of service performance for 2023-2024 and priorities for 2024-2026
- 6.9 The Rights of the Child (UNCRC) - Our children and young people are at risk of being educationally disadvantaged if we cannot deliver on the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan 2024-26.

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